

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1-25 (Canceled)

26. (New) A positive identification device particularly for establishing correctly a correlation between a hospital product or patient to be correlated and at least one hospital product or patient that is correlated to said hospital product or patient to be correlated, comprises:

5 -- first memory means, which can be affixed to said hospital product or patient to be correlated and store a predefined unique identification code for said hospital product or patient to be correlated;

10 -- second memory means, which can be affixed respectively to said at least one hospital product or patient that is correlated to said hospital product or patient to be correlated;

15 -- means for remote transfer of data, adapted to download by remote transmission the content of said first memory means into said second memory means.

27. (New) The device according to claim 26, comprising comparator means that are adapted to compare the content of said first memory means with the content of said second memory means in order to verify correlation thereof.

20 28. (New) The device according to claim 26, wherein said means for remote data transfer are adapted to download, by remote transmission, the content of said second memory means into said first memory means.

25 29. (New) The device according to claim 26, wherein said first memory means are adapted to store additional data related to said hospital product or patient to be correlated.

30. (New) The device according to claim 26, wherein said first memory means are adapted to store data related to said at least one correlated hospital product or patient.

31. (New) The device according to claim 26, wherein said remote data transfer means operate via radiofrequency.

32. (New) The device according to claim 26, further comprising an identification transponder for identifying the hospital product or patient to be correlated, which comprises said first memory means and is associable with said first hospital product or patient to be correlated, and at least one 5 correlation transponder, which comprises said second memory means and is respectively associable with said at least one correlated hospital product or patient, said remote data transfer means comprising radiofrequency transponder reading means and radiofrequency transponder programming means.

10 33. (New) The device according to claim 32, further comprising at least one processor-equipped device, said at least one processor-equipped device comprising said radiofrequency transponder reading means and said radiofrequency transponder programming means.

15 34. (New) The device according to claim 33, wherein at least one processor-equipped device comprises said means and signaling means, which are functionally connected to said comparator means and are adapted to report the match between the content of said first memory means and the content of said second memory means.

20 35. (New) The device according to claim 33, wherein said at least one processor-equipped device comprises data entry means.

36. (New) The device according to claim 35, wherein said data entry means comprise a keyboard.

37. (New) The device according to claim 33, wherein said at least one processor-equipped device comprises printing means.

25 38. (New) The device according to claim 33, wherein said at least one processor-equipped device comprises display means that are adapted to display the content of said first memory means and of said second memory means.

39. (New) The device according to claim 33, wherein said processor-equipped device comprises means for interfacing with at least one computer.

40. (New) The device according to claim 33, wherein said processor-

equipped device comprises encryption/decryption means that are adapted to encrypt/decrypt the content of said first memory means and of said second memory means.

41. (New) The device according to claim 32, wherein said identification transponder is supported by an identification bracelet or by a card.

42. (New) The device according to claim 32, wherein said at least one correlation transponder is provided with means for affixing to a container of said at least one correlated hospital product.

43. (New) The device according to claim 42, wherein said affixing means comprise an adhesive label.

44. (New) The device according to claim 32, wherein said at least one correlation transponder is integrated in said container.

45. (New) The device according to claim 32, wherein said identification transponder and said at least one correlation transponder are disposable.

46. (New) A method for correctly establishing a match between a hospital product or patient to be correlated and at least one hospital product or patient that is correlated to said first hospital product or patient to be correlated, comprising the steps of:

-- assigning to said hospital product or patient to be correlated first memory means that store a predefined unique code for identification of said first hospital product or patient to be correlated,

25 -- remotely transmitting and loading a content of said first memory means into second memory means associated respectively with said at least one correlated hospital product or patient,

-- performing a procedure for comparing the content of said first memory means and a content of said second memory means.

47. (New) Method according to claim 46, wherein, between said assignment step and said remote transmission step, a step of remote loading additional data related to said hospital product or patient to be correlated in

said first memory means.

48. (New) The method according to claim 47, wherein said remote transmission step and said remote loading step are performed via radiofrequency.

5 49. (New) The method according to claim 46, comprising a step of encrypting the data contained in said first memory means and in said second memory means and a step of decrypting the data encrypted in said encryption step.

10 50. (New) The method according to claim 46, comprising a step of downloading the content of said first memory means or of said second memory means into at least one computer, which is connected over a network to a database of hospitalized patients.